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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT Isolated Military Zones in Tuva

DATE DISTR 25 Feb 1954

NO. OF PAGES 1

NO. OF ENCLS.

SUPP. TO
REPORT NO.

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- Four isolated military zones, under direct control of the Defense Ministry, are to be found in the autonomous oblast of Tuva. This is in southern Asiatic Soviet territory, on the Mongolian border. The zones are as follows:
 - Zone of Kyzyl, where there is a Kombinat making chemicals with a carbon base;
 - Zone of Chadan, where there is a Kombinat for copper products;
 - Zone of Tannu-Ula, where there is a rocket experiment ground; and
 - Zone of Sayan, where there is a base for railway construction.
- From 12,000 to 15,000 men are employed in each of the zones and there are also prisoner-laborers.
- There are strong military garrisons, including engineers, aviators, and rocket specialists. The garrisons maintain strict control over these zones.
- The civilian population is in forty-six big sovkhozes or kolkhozes. Administration is entirely in Soviet hands. Liberty of movement for the civilian population is limited. In frontier zones contiguous to the National Republic of Mongolia, no kolkhozes have been established. This is for propaganda purposes.
- Social commissars, designated by the "Obkom" (Oblast Committee) have power to expel undesirable persons. During the last few months, a certain Commissar Pankov has expelled from his frontier zone about two thousand local inhabitants. They are accused of smuggling and illegal passage of the frontier.
- The Soviet Government is spending immense sums in gold to buy cattle and to secure raw materials necessary for tanning meat. Apparently this is happening in Mongolia.

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